

OUR NUNS.

Reception of the Religious Habit Is Only the First Step.

Real Motive That Prompts Girls to Embrace the Religious Life.

Efforts Made to Injure These Good Women Prove Unavailing.

COVER LAND LIKE GENTLE DEW

Six young ladies, whose ages ranged from sixteen to twenty-four, received the habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Cathedral at Wichita a week ago last Saturday. Noting the important event, the Catholic Advance most truthfully says:

A ceremony of this kind can not be witnessed with indifference. One may well ask if a girl of sixteen knows her own mind sufficiently to feel sure she will be contented with a life so replete with every human inclination. The same question has been asked and answered by the Catholic church. Reception of the religious habit is only the first step. There follow two years of novitiate, during which time the applicant familiarizes herself with the duties and obligations to be imposed upon her when she shall have made her three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Whatever our enemies may say, girls that enter a convent are always free to leave it and it is not an uncommon occurrence to see them return home even after having received the habit. Strange as it may sound, religious communities are far less anxious to secure or keep subjects than subjects are desirous of entering a community. Close attention is paid to the characteristic traits of each novice and those who show the least dissatisfaction with their own choice are sent back immediately to their relatives.

It is thought sometimes by good people that convents are the havens of love-sick maidens or world-weary matrons. We do not say that a few such may not occasionally glide past the convent doors and forgetting the past, start a new life, thanks to the assistance of God's grace and the example of their companions. But these are very exceptional cases, for mourning over a dead love or disgust of mankind in general does not mix well with the requirements of an active, self-sacrificing life. Convents do not want broken hearts and will not accept them, unless the candidates happen to bring along some pretty good cement with which to piece firmly together the shattered fragments. Not one girl out of a thousand has a "heart affair" before entering the convent. The real motive that prompts girls to embrace the religious life is enthusiasm, not disappointment. Girls of sixteen, eighteen or twenty are not generally suffering from aggravated melancholia.

One is appalled at the thought of what would happen if the vast army of Sisters now found in the United States were suddenly to disappear. Silently but constantly they have gone on increasing in numbers, until today they cover the land like a gentle dew. Wherever strikes calamity, needs help or they are to be found. By the bedside of the sick and dying, near helpless old age or faltering orphan childhood, over the desks of ambitious pupils and in close touch with every effort to better or relieve the human race, stand our Sisters, serene queens of the vast kingdom of suffering and ignorance. Chivalry demands of every man respect for womanhood, but only the basest of degenerates would dare lift his hand against the woman who makes a holocaust of herself so that she may be useful to others. War against nuns has always recoiled on the heads of its instigators. France is calling back her nuns and Portugal will do the same. The efforts that are being made to injure the Sisters of this country will prove unavailing, for the broad, common-sense American has already pronounced judgment and it is entirely in favor of those who "White lilies that nod in the gardens of God, The maidens who take the veil."

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

The County Board, A. O. H., is making preparations to celebrate St. Patrick's day with an entertainment and lecture at one of our leading theaters, and County President W. J. Connelly has appointed the following Committee of Arrangements: Thomas Keenan, Daniel O'Keefe, John M. Maloney and John J. Barry. In order to secure the theater the celebration will necessarily take place on the Sunday evening preceding St. Patrick's day, which will be March 15.

PLAIN TALK.

A tremendous sensation was caused in the American Luncheon Club in London last Friday when Senator James Hamilton Lewis, of Illinois, the club's guest of honor criticized Great Britain by saying "How can there be peace with a nation that is inciting our neighbors to war on our borders?" Thomas

J. McNamara, Parliamentary Secretary of the British Admiralty, had expressed to the one hundred Americans present the usual customary remarks, hoping that the United States and England would ever be bound by the ties of peace, and Senator Lewis' speech followed. The Illinois Senator continued: "President Wilson's policy is peace with honor, but honor first, and there must be honor even without peace." Americans congratulated the flame-throwing Senator, one shaking his hand and saying, "Senator, your speech will be an inspiration to all Americans."

CHORAL UNION CONCERT.

Tomorrow evening Louisville lovers of good music will have a chance to enjoy a popular concert at the Masqued Theater, which will be given by the Catholic Choral Club, Louisville's foremost musical organization. This is the first concert of the season to be given by this club, and it will be one of the events of the year. The net proceeds of this concert will go to the St. Lawrence Institute for Working Boys, Arthur Middleton, the famous Chicago barytone, has been engaged to sing all the principal parts and to render three solos. Hofmann's beautiful cantata, "Melusina," will be the principal number on the programme. The chorus consists of 300 of the best singers of Louisville, recruited from the various churches and societies. In addition to the choral numbers in "Melusina," the chorus will render three added songs. An augmented orchestra of fifty pieces will play the accompaniments. Prof. Anthony Melen-graft will have charge of the concert. Given for so worthy an institution, it is hoped there will be a great audience.

PROF. CONN'S VIEW.

Enthusiastic apostles of eugenics are called to task by Prof. H. W. Conn, of the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., in an article in a recent magazine for their failure to distinguish between the evolution of animals and the evolution of man. Strange as it may sound, eugenics he charges them, with overlooking the fact that man is a superior animal and that his social inheritance is probably more important than his organic. He insists that mental and ethical tendencies contributed by organic inheritance are the least important. The social inheritance is great and increases with successive generations, the invention of printing and other forms of preserving the achievements of the race having made this transmission cumulative almost beyond conception. He illustrates concretely by the case of the individual counts in the progress of evolution only through its offspring. The animal that dies without offspring has contributed nothing to the race, has left no trace, no inheritance. With mankind it is different. George Washington left no offspring at all, but his contribution to the people of America and even to the people of the world can hardly be measured. Dr. Conn might have used every Roman Catholic clergyman, whether Pope or priest, who has influenced his time or future times, as another illustration.

JOHN DALTON DEAD.

The many relatives and legion of friends of John M. Dalton, for twenty years a member of the police department, were painfully shocked when they learned of his sudden and unexpected death early Tuesday morning at his home, 822 West Jefferson street. Returning home shortly before midnight Monday, he was stricken with cerebral hemorrhage, but lived until Father Westermann arrived and administered the last sacraments. Deceased was fifty years of age and a native of this city. Besides his wife two children survive him. He also leaves one brother, Deputy Circuit Court Clerk Edward J. Dalton, and was the largest seen there for some time.

HONOR COL. HOYNE.

At the meeting of the senior classes of Notre Dame University on January 18, the 1914 Dome was dedicated to Col. William Hoyne, LL. D., K. S. G., dean of the law school at Notre Dame. The Dome is the annual year book of the university, published by the senior class. Col. Hoyne has been dean of the law school since 1883. He was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1846. He came to America and during the civil war served in the Union army, and later received degrees in the Universities of Michigan and Notre Dame. In 1873-4 he was editor of the New Brunswick (N. J.) Daily Times and in 1881-2 was editor of the Peoria Daily Transcript. He is a contributor to prominent law journals. On February 8, 1913, Col. Hoyne was made a Knight of St. Gregory by Pope Pius X. The order of St. Gregory is one of the oldest in the church and at the present time is composed mostly of European noblemen.

COLORADO CATHOLICS.

There are 109,182 Catholics in the Denver diocese, which includes all Colorado. There are 33,454 in Denver. These are the official figures, as compiled by the Right Rev. Monsignor Richard Brady, Vicar General of the Annual Official Catholic Directory. There is a gain of about 600 Catholics in the State over last year. The estimates are ultra conservative, as none but practical Catholics are counted.

FRANKFORT

The Scene of Probe Committees and Investigation This Past Week.

Louisville's Legislators Making Good in Both Assembly Branches.

Councilman Dolan Will Introduce Mr. Binford's Segregation Ordinance.

CUSICK AND BENNETT HOLD

Both houses of the General Assembly have had quite an uneventful time this past week, probing bills and investigation of different institutions being the feature of the sessions, while the principal lobbying was confined to the advocates of women's suffrage and the little crowd of Progressive commission government supporters from Louisville. Both measures seem doomed to failure, the first because it was proven in the last year or two that the women are not even interested enough to vote on school questions, the only interest being manifested by that class of women who are not overly fond of home and ready to adopt any passing fad. The other proposition due to receive the cold shoulder from the Legislature is the commission government plan, whose supporters compare in a way with the women faddists, their sole purpose seeming to be self-advertising, their names being found daily in the public press, and always endeavoring to secure a strangle hold on public opinion with their pet aims and measures, which for the most part are the vague ideas of dreamers.

Louisville's delegation this session has made a most pronounced hit, their splendid appearance being freely commented upon. In addition to the apparent youth of Messrs. Duffy, Barrett, McNally, Perry and O'Brien, to say nothing of our two boy Senators, Knight and Robertson, the senior Senator, Hite Huffer, is only a little older. John Deesher, Billy Kuh, and Adam Spahn are the fathers of the delegation, all being a little older in years, Spain having the reputation of being one of the brainiest men at Frankfort, so the paper says of which Adam is the editor and business manager, and this should be accepted as reliable information.

Now that Mayor Buchanan's administration has been launched successfully many are of the opinion that the time is ripe for a segregation ordinance as proposed by Walter D. Binford at a meeting of the real estate men recently, when Mr. Binford quoted the adoption of such an ordinance by Baltimore and other cities, with large negro populations. There can be no question but that real estate values have taken a drop in Louisville due to the advent of negro tenants in what was regarded as white sections heretofore, and in many instances have proven a detriment to the white laboring man and mechanic, who after struggling for many years to own his own little home found himself and family literally driven away from the neighborhood by the entrance of negroes, who only have to follow the lead of one of their number, who was able to pay a high price for expensive property, but by doing so secured cheap rents of homes for his own kind that followed in his wake. To the casual observer this is aptly proven by a trip west on either Chestnut or Walnut street, where family after family of blacks are enjoying the fruits of some of the man's lifetime savings. A little expense, living in homes with all modern conveniences, while the former owner or steady working white mechanics are forced to content themselves in some humble little cottage at practically the same rent. Councilman Thomas Dolan has announced his intention of fathering this ordinance in the near future, for which he will receive the thanks of the community.

Jailer Charlie Foster has retained Peter Cusick and Tom Bennett, formerly deputies under Jailer Pfanz, which is a tribute to the merit and efficiency of these popular Democrats, both having made hosts of friends during their official career at the city jail, and their services and efforts will go a long way toward making their employer an ideal jailer, and who, by the way, made several splendid recommendations for the management of that institution to the Fiscal Court.

THEIR BIG NIGHT.

Branch 542, C. K. of A., installed its officers Tuesday night, and in connection therewith enjoyed a very big evening. There was an unusually large attendance when President Joe McGinn opened the meeting. The business of the year was just finished preparatory to the installation of the officers by State Secretary Meehan when the Knights were surprised by the appearance of President Ben Kruse, Secretary Schulten and a good-sized delegation from the Central Committee. The visitors were given a cordial welcome by the officers and members, and following the installation, were recipients of the second surprise. President McGinn declared a short recess to hear addresses, during which time Treasurer Henry Schuler, Harry Veeneman, Will Phelan, Cushman and others got up and soon had ready an excellent

Dutch luncheon and smokers. Branch 542 is located at St. Michael's Hall on Brook street, and the reports show that it is actually gaining in strength, with three applications pending for action at the next meeting.

RECENT DEATHS.

John Koehler, retired carpenter contractor and civil war veteran and one of the oldest members of the congregation, was buried Monday morning from St. Boniface church. He was a native of Germany, but had lived in this city for three score years, his home being at 920 Fehr avenue. Three sons, three daughters and three grandchildren survive him.

Following an illness of pneumonia, Thomas J. O'Neil, forty years old and a well known molder, was called into eternal rest Tuesday night at the home of his sister, Mrs. Mackin Thornbury, 1322 West Oak street. His funeral was held Thursday morning from St. Louis Bertrand's church. He was unmarried and the only member of his family surviving is Mrs. Thornbury.

Thomas Costello, known to everybody in the West End and an old resident of this city, died Sunday evening of old age. For years he was a well known figure on the streets, always taking much interest in politics, with always a hearty greeting and kind word for everybody. The funeral took place Tuesday morning from the residence of his son-in-law, Gus Henry, 2028 Portland avenue, with solemn mass of requiem at St. Patrick's church.

Mrs. Henrietta Rothman, beloved wife of Louis Rothman, 417 Marret avenue, was called to her eternal rest Tuesday morning, and the news cast a feeling of deep gloom among her many friends. She underwent an operation, the effects of which were too much for her weakened condition. The funeral services were held Thursday morning from St. Philip Neri church, a large attendance attesting the respect in which the deceased was held.

Funeral services over the remains of Matthew McLaughlin, well known in the West End, were held Monday morning at St. Patrick church. For a number of years the deceased was a member of the local police force, but resigned because of failing health. Surviving him are his aged mother, Mrs. Julia McLaughlin, 1335 Duncan street; two sisters, Mrs. Robert Smith and Miss Elizabeth McLaughlin, and two brothers, Charles and Robert McLaughlin.

Maurice Halloran, one of the oldest and most highly respected members of St. Frances of Rome congregation, succumbed Sunday night to the infirmities of age at his home, 227 North Pope street. Besides his son Edward, who is a member of the Louisville fire department, he leaves three daughters, Miss Mamie Halloran, Mrs. Julia Martin and Mrs. Leo Edelen. The funeral was held Wednesday morning with requiem high mass, when Father Thomas White paid feeling tribute to the exemplary life and noble traits of character of the deceased.

MACKIN COUNCIL.

Mackin Council had an interesting meeting Monday night and President Thornton feels elated with the marked increase thus far this year. Besides the usual routine business time was given to the reports and preparations for the joint initiation to be held in New Albany on Sunday, February 8. From present indications Mackin will have a large class, able St. Patrick's, New Castle, and the Bachelor Club will lose its leading dentist member soon after Easter, which will leave Charley Ralby and George Simonis almost solitary and alone. Secretary Cassin has taken hold in an energetic way and already the treasury is showing the results of his work.

BIG K. OF C. DAY.

One thousand visitors were in Henderson last Sunday to take part in a joint installation of Morganfield, Uniontown, Waverly and Henderson councils. Knights of the local lodge, a special train arrived over the Illinois Central early in the morning, and brought several hundred from the section below Henderson. Many were also there from Owensboro and other cities of the State. Albert J. Oberst, of Owensboro, spoke on "Fraternity," and Charles D. French, a Dominican, and Father Eugene, a Trappist. He took up the work of his episcopate with the vigor that had marked his missionary labors, making episcopal visitations to such scattered points as the following: Newburyport, Dedham, Wrentham, Pleasant Point, Portsmouth, Newport, Bristol, Portland, New Castle, Salem, Providence, Pawtucket, New Haven, Hartford, New London and Damariscotta.

TRINITY PROGRAMME.

Trinity Council, Y. M. I., will have a smoker at the meeting next Monday evening, when it is planned to have a number of the old and new members and also elect delegates to the local Federation of Catholic Societies. On the following Monday, February 2, Frank Martin, a member of the council who is studying for the priesthood at St. Mary's College, Baltimore, will deliver a lecture, which is sure to be both entertaining and instructive, as were his other appearances during the past year. President James B. Kelly also urges the members of Trinity to be present at the joint initiation of Trinity, Mackin and Unity Councils, which will take place in Unity club room, New Albany, Sunday afternoon, February 8. Many of Trinity's members have signified their intention of joining the California Club, which is to be composed of members of the local Y. M. I., who contemplate attending the Panama Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. A. J. Hennessy being the representative of Trinity, who is furthering all particulars.

BOSTON.

Anniversary of Mons. Cheverus Who Was Its First Bishop.

Cardinal and Peer of France Once a New England Missionary.

Did the Work of the Humble Pioneer Priest Among the Indians.

DIOCESE INCLUDED SIX STATES

The one hundred and forty-sixth anniversary of the birth of Boston's first Bishop, the Right Rev. Jean-Louis LeFebvre Cheverus, which occurs on Wednesday, January 28, as noted in our Catholic chronology, will recall to Catholic New England the early days of the church's struggles in that inhospitable field when Catholicity was a plant of recent growth, and when this indefatigable missionary, destined to the dignity of the Cardinalate and the Peerage of France, was laying the foundations of the faith there.

Beginning his labors, that extended over twenty-seven years, as a missionary to the New England Indians, among whom he lived and whose dialects he mastered, he did the work of the humble pioneer priest, walking long distances, ministering to scattered Catholics, nursing the sick, consoling the afflicted, burying the dead victims of yellow fever, and performing miracles of devotion to duty, he came to be regarded and idolized as the father, friend, adviser and guide of his people. He inspired them with confidence in the near advent of better days and he disarmed deep-rooted prejudices against the faith and won all hearts. So when he was nominated as the first Bishop of Boston it was an occasion of universal rejoicing shared by his friends he had made in all denominations and among all classes; as his recall to France to higher dignities, fourteen years later, was mourned as a calamity to the Commonwealth.

He was born at Mayenne, France, January 28, 1768, and was ordained December 18, 1790, by special dispensation before he had reached his twenty-third year, it being the last public ceremony of the kind in Paris before the Revolution. He refused to take the prescribed oath and escaped to England in disguise. In three months he had mastered English and then a letter from his old-time teacher in the College of Louis-le-Grand, Father Francis A. Matignon, in Boston, telling of the need of zealous priests in America, directed his footsteps to the New World and he arrived in Boston October 3, 1796, with all his belongings in a small trunk, the same one he used years later in taking his departure.

For fourteen years he performed all the arduous duties of the pioneer priest, and when the See of Boston was established by Pius VII., April 8, 1808, and he was consecrated its first Bishop on the feast of All Saints, 1810, in the Baltimore Cathedral by Bishop Carroll, there were but 720 Catholics in Boston. There were only three churches, Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, New Castle, and an Indian chapel at Point Pleasant, though the diocese comprised the territory now included in the States of Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut, where now there are eight sees.

His old friend, Father Matignon, was his faithful assistant, and among the other early priests who labored with him from time to time there were the following: Fathers James Romagne, John Thayer, Francis Xavier Brosius, Dennis Ryan, Paul McQuade, Patrick Byrne, Virgil H. Barber, Philip Larney, an Augustinian; Charles D. French, a Dominican, and Father Eugene, a Trappist. He took up the work of his episcopate with the vigor that had marked his missionary labors, making episcopal visitations to such scattered points as the following: Newburyport, Dedham, Wrentham, Pleasant Point, Portsmouth, Newport, Bristol, Portland, New Castle, Salem, Providence, Pawtucket, New Haven, Hartford, New London and Damariscotta.

Some of the notable converts admitted to the church through his ministrations were Dr. Stephen Cleveland, Blythe and family, Thomas Wallis, of Brookline; the Rev. Daniel Barber and family, Samuel Bishop, of New Castle, and many others less prominent. He issued a French edition of the New Testament and also the Roman Catholic Manual, a prayer book, at 1811, and he built St. Augustine's church, which was originally intended as a mortuary chapel and as a mausoleum for Father Matignon, whose death was a great blow to the Bishop.

His services were in demand outside his own diocese, and he found time to dedicate St. Patrick's old Cathedral in New York on May 4, 1815, and to pontificate at the consecration of Archbishop Marechal in Baltimore December 14, 1817. Exhausted and in poor health after his twenty-seven years of ceaseless toil he accepted a call to return to his native land and on January 15, 1823, he was transferred to the See of Montauban, to be elevated a few years later, July 30, 1836, to the Archbishopric of Bordeaux.

deaux, and died a member of the Sacred College and a Peer of France, July 19, 1836, at the moment of great elevation in a mass offered in his sick room.

THREE ADVANCE STEPS.

Kentucky lags behind neighboring States in allowing children under sixteen to work ten hours a day, according to a statement issued by the National Child Labor Committee. A new child labor bill, drafted by the Kentucky Child Labor Association, will be introduced in the present Legislature, and Huston Quinn, President of the Kentucky Child Labor Association, has asked the assistance of the National Child Labor Committee in the campaign for its adoption. An important feature of the bill is the provision limiting the hours of work for all under sixteen to eight a day. Owen R. Lovejoy, General Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee, believes that the experience of Ohio, Missouri, Illinois and the fifteen other States which have already adopted the eight-hour day, proves that such a limit is not only beneficial to the children employed, but positively advantageous to the industries involved. He says employers in States with the eight-hour law have emphatically stated that, although they opposed the provision when it was introduced, they are now heartily in favor of such a restriction. Another important provision according to the National Child Labor Committee, is the establishment of a twenty-one year age limit for night messengers. Secretary Lovejoy says that a study of the night messenger service has proved conclusively that it is to the moral interest of the public to establish this limit between the hours of 9 p. m. and 6 a. m. Little can be gained from the night messenger service, according to the committee, but a knowledge of evil, as calls to disorderly houses are an inevitable part of the experience of messenger boys. Seven States have already adopted a twenty-one year limit and twelve more have at least an eighteen year limit.

The National Child Labor Committee rates coal mining as a dangerous occupation, especially for children. The latest census credits Kentucky with 300 coal mines giving employment to 18,000 persons, and Kentucky fixed the same age limit of fourteen for this work as for ordinary kinds of employment. Mr. Lovejoy says that the long list of coal mine fatalities every year is sufficient argument for a sixteen year age limit in mines.

NOVELTY EUCHRE.

The novelty euchre and lotto entertainment arranged by President Ben Kruse and the Central Committee, Catholic Knights of America, for next Wednesday night in St. Vincent de Paul's new and large hall, Shelby and Oak, promises to outdo anything of the kind that has taken place in Louisville. The Central Committee has entertained the State convention, endowed a ward at St. Anthony's Hospital, appropriated \$100 for a Catholic band, made a beautiful and costly display in the parade and entertainment of the Catholic Federation, assisted members and branches of the order and numerous other good works, and all without assessments or dues from any of the Catholic Knights of America branches. These expenses have been a severe drain on the treasury in hopes of replenishing the treasury this entertainment is given. For the euchre and lotto players there will be a big array of desirable awards, but the fun will be in the novelty drawing, which will develop many pleasing surprises. Nearly every branch in the city is taking an interest in this affair, which should bring together a large representation from each congregation where the order has members. For those who do not play the committees will have other amusements that they will enjoy. Representatives from all the churches met this week and heard encouraging reports, especially as to the number of prizes, many of them quite costly, that had been donated.

FROM SOUTH BEND.

Father John Cavanaugh, President of Notre Dame University, addressed the St. Holy Name Society last Sunday night in South Bend, Ind. Among the topics he spoke upon were sex hygiene, the divorce question and socialism. Father Cavanaugh declared that sex hygiene should not be taught in the schools, but this is the duty of the mother in the home and the priest in the confessional. He also touched upon the present go-to-church Sunday movement. "I can't blame any Catholic for not becoming enthusiastic about this," he said, "because it has been taught all Catholics from childhood up to go to church. One of the features of the ultimate passage of the male chorus of 400 voices."

TRIAL BY JURY.

The pupils of Miss Elizabeth Chase, assisted by several of her friends, will sing Gilbert and Sullivan's famous cantata, "Trial by Jury," at the Knights of Columbus home on Wednesday evening, January 28, for the benefit of the members and their friends. Among those who will take part are Misses Olivia and Male Hubbuch, Rita Flanagan, Etta McAtes, Bessie Cronin, Mary Cline, Mary and Angela Flynn, Mayne Schumann, Anna Zoll, Mrs. Frank Gerardi Ryan, Messrs. Ray Flanagan, Nicholas Bohn, Thomas D. Cline, Robert G. Wolf, Philip Coady, Edward Wolfe, Emmet Hanrahan, John M. Hennessy, Theo. Martin, Thomas Kennedy, Theodore O'Toole, Edward Pope, Joseph McGill, John J. Crotty, J. J. Flynn, Frank Ryan, Dennis Ryan and Edward McDonough.

CHURCHILL.

His Naval Demands Bring Cabinet Close to the Breaking Point.

Optimism of Asquith Has Dried Tears and Silenced Tory Papers.

These Movements Looked On With Interest Rather Than Anxiety.

NO OBSTACLE TO HOME RULE

Not until Parliament meets next month can much news be expected concerning home rule for Ireland. The cables of the past week contain only the conclusions of the correspondents, which are somewhat divergent, but not discouraging. From London Philip Everett cables that the optimistic tone of Asquith's New Year's message issued through the Liberal Monthly has at least temporarily silenced the Tory papers which recently wept on assuring their readers that the Government was about to fall out over home rule and Lloyd George's land reform. In reality the Cabinet has never been better satisfied with the political situation than at present or more confident of future success. No one doubts that a satisfactory way of dealing with Ulster will be found as soon as Parliament meets again, and the popularity of Lord George with the masses has been growing immensely since it has become evident that the great estate owners are to be forced to bear their share of the burdens of taxation.

Hon. T. P. O'Connor, M. P., on the other hand, declares that the situation at home is critical. It is certain that the moment has come when the Cabinet can no longer continue to accept Churchill's mounting demands for a continual increase in the naval appropriations. Lloyd George is put forward in the Tory papers of England and the jingo papers of France as the sole obstacle and opponent of Churchill, and all kinds of ridiculous personal reasons are given as explanation. As a matter of fact, Lloyd George, who has something of the easy-going good nature of the Celt about him, and who feels grateful to Churchill for his staunch standing by him during the Marconi trouble, is one of Churchill's few friends in the Cabinet and has stood by him many times as Chancellor of the Exchequer when other Ministers would have been much less indulgent. Lloyd George also is determined if possible to prevent Churchill leaving the Ministry and party at this critical moment and it is not he, but Churchill, who now occupies an isolated position in the Cabinet. Every Minister is against Churchill's exaggerated demands, some even fiercely.

There is another, though less avowed, reason for the growing hostility to Churchill. It is believed that he occasionally contemplates going back to his old party. The breakdown of Bonar Law, the absence of all serious competition, and the general despair of the Tories through the want of any striking leader, open a prospect to such a daring genius as Churchill. His violent personal ambition could never be satisfied with any position short of leadership, and as leadership in the Liberal party now is impossible to him, it is suspected that he looks for it elsewhere. This idea gives a clue to many performances which otherwise would have remained inexplicable.

If the Ministry and the Irish party should finally fail to come to terms with Ulster, Churchill's utterances would enable him to take up the Ulster cause and give the force of his brilliant gifts to the Tories, and thus impose himself on them whether they were willing to take him or not. Thus some of Churchill's colleagues probably would be glad if he should leave now rather than later, when his desertion might be more injurious. Thus the situation is much involved and next week may see big developments, though it is possible that the natural hesitation of men facing such a big possibility as the departure of a leading member of the Cabinet on the one side and Churchill's equally natural shrinking from taking the final plunge may postpone the crisis some time longer.

Irishmen look on these movements with interest rather than anxiety. They believe that even Churchill's transference, though not negligible, would not be important enough to put any serious obstacle in the way of the ultimate passage of home rule into law.

VISITED ORPHANS.

Last Sunday afternoon about two hundred members of Louisville Council, Knights of Columbus, with their wives and friends, paid a visit to St. Thomas Orphan Asylum, and the occasion was one that all will long remember, and for which thanks are largely due to John Doyle. When the visitors arrived they were entertained by the orphan boys, who rendered an excellent programme. The Knights, however, had arranged a welcome surprise for the little fellows, who were treated to ice cream, cake and fruits, and after appropriate remarks John J. Flynn and others took the stage and gave several renditions that won the applause of all present.